

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is made in response to applicant's amendment filed on 6/30/2009. Claims 1-5, 10, 11, 16, 19-21, 23, 25, and, 28 are currently pending in the application. An action follows below:

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-5, 10, 11, 16, 19-21, 23, 25, and, 28 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a electronic whiteboard having an inductive touch surface. Independent claim 1 identifies the uniquely distinct features an input induction layer having wires wound around position reference columns in X and Y directions and the wires being covered by an insulating layer and the size of induction cells are different on different induction layers. The closest prior art, Ely et al. (USPN: 6489899), Taguchi et al. (USPN: 4678870), and Roemersma (USPN: 5450348) disclose inductive style input systems but lack discussion of position reference columns and having different sized cells on different induction layers, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2629

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven E. Holton whose telephone number is (571)272-7903. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (571) 272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Bipin Shalwala/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Steven E Holton/
Examiner, Art Unit 2629
October 22, 2009